

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECE UN

SUBJECT: ECE - REPRESENTATION OF EEC IN ECE

REF: GENEVA 6669; GENEVA 1047

1. SUMMARY: EEC GIVING ACTIVE CONSIDERATION TO SEEKING MORE FORMAL STATUS IN RELATION TO ECE. INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS BEING UNDERTAKEN WITH EASTERN AND NON-EC WESTERN COUNTRIES WITH VIEW TO POSSIBLE ACTION AT THE 30TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION (15-25 APRIL).

2. ANTICIPATE THAT EAST MAY OBJECT BECAUSE OF CONTROVERSY OVER EEC ROLE IN NEGOTIATION OF TIR CONVENTION, DELICATE NATURE OF EEC-CMEA CONTACTS, EEC POLICY RE ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH EAST AND DESIRE TO AWAIT CSCE CONCLUSION.

3. WE HAVE REPLIED TO INFORMAL EEC QUERY THAT US LIKELY ADOPT SIMILAR POSITION TO THAT TAKEN AT 29TH UNGA RE EEC/CMEA OBSERVER STATUS AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT MATTER BE
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RESOLVED INFORMALLY PRIOR ECE SESSION AND NOT BE

SUBJECT TO DEBATE. END SUMMARY.

4. EEC OFFICIALS HAVE PARTICIPATED FOR MANY YEARS IN WORK OF ECE ON INVITATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. SIMILAR ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE WITH CMEA AND CERTAIN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. THESE ARRANGEMENTS ARE INFORMAL AND ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY COVERED BY THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMISSION. IN THIS MANNER ECE HAS BEEN ABLE TO CARRY ON WORK OF A PRACTICAL NATURE WITH THESE BODIES WITHOUT A FORMAL DECISION WHICH COULD HAVE POSSIBLE POLITICAL OVERTONES. MEMBERS HAVE TACITLY ACCEPTED THIS ARRANGEMENT.

5. EEC HAS NOW DECIDED TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES OF OBTAINING EITHER "OBSERVER" OR "CONSULTATIVE" STATUS WITH THE COMMISSION. SINCE ECE TERMS OF REFERENCE DO NOT PROVIDE FOR OBSERVER STATUS, THESE WOULD HAVE TO BE AMENDED BY ECOSOC. NINE CURRENTLY OF VIEW THAT SUCH AN EFFORT SHOULD NOT BE MADE SINCE THEY PREFER THAT MANNER BE RESOLVED IN ECE.

6. ALTERNATIVE POSSIBILITY IS TO SEEK DECISION AT ECE SESSION THAT EEC SHOULD BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN A CONSULTATIVE CAPACITY IN CONFORMITY WITH RULE 12 OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE WHICH READS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: 12. THE COMMISSION SHALL INVITE REPRESENTATIVES OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND MAY INVITE REPRESENTATIVES OF ANY INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN A CONSULTATIVE CAPACITY IN ITS CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTER OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO THAT AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION, FOLLOWING THE PRACTICES OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL. END QUOTE.

7. AGREEMENT OF EAST IS, OF COURSE, ESSENTIAL IF EEC IS TO SUCCEED IN QUALIFYING UNDER RULE 12 SINCE ECE OPERATES ON CONSENSUS BASIS. EEC RECOGNIZES THAT PARALLEL STATUS WOULD BE ACCORDED TO CMEA.

8. EEC HAS NOT YET ASCERTAINED REACTION OF EASTERN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COUNTRIES. WE ANTICIPATE THAT EAST MAY TAKE RESERVED POSITION FOR FOLLOWING REASONS: (1) CONTROVERSY OVER EEC ROLE RE REVISION OF TIR CONVENTION (REFTELS); (2) NEW EEC POLICY ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH EASTERN COUNTRIES; (3) DELICATE NATURE OF EEC-CMEA CONTACTS; AND (4) DESIRE TO AWAIT CSCE CONCLUSION.

9. NETHERLANDS DEL HAS INFORMALLY INQUIRED AS TO US VIEWS

ON THIS MATTER. WE REPLIED THAT WE WOULD MOST LIKELY ADOPT
SIMILAR POSITION WHICH WE TOOK AT 29TH GA REGARDING OBSERVER
STATUS FOR EEC AND CMEA. IF EEC AND EASTERN COUNTRIES REACH
AN UNDERSTANDING WE WOULD JOIN CONSENSUS ON CONSULTATIVE
STATUS FOR EEC AND CMEA. WE WOULD HOPE THAT MATTER
WOULD BE RESOLVED IN CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO 30TH
SESSION AND THAT DEBATE AT THE SESSION WOULD BE
AVOIDED. DALE

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